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From: Cseh, Larry (ATSDR/DTHHS/OD)
Sent: Sat 8/8/2015 5:11:10 PM
Subject: Talking points you asked about

Here are the talking point

The Gold King Mine cleanup site had an unintentional release of waste materials into the Cement Creek that ran into the Animas River. The local sheriff closed the river for all recreational uses and notifications went to any water systems downstream to close their water intakes. The , San Juan Basin Health, has requested “information for health care providers treating patients with exposure to the contaminated water along with general information for the public.”

After reviewing sample data collected at six locations on Aug 5th and 6th we recommend the following

- With the exception of Cement Creek 14th street bridge, all other sampling locations show a decrease in the levels of the dissolved metals and we anticipate them to decrease in the future.
- The Animas River is an open water source and not considered potable until it has been properly treated, with that said we expect that people are not drinking the water straight from the river.
- The sampling collection information identifies areas with an orange turbidity as the areas with lower pH and high metals. Notice should be given to not use areas with an orange turbidity conditions
- We do not anticipate the elevated metals cited to be of health concerns for persons with dermal exposure. Are comparison values take into consideration of incidental consumption and should not be an issue.
- Good personal hygiene washing with soap and water after contact with the water is a sound practice for not only the metals but also any bacteria that maybe present.
- Anyone who feels ill should contact their local physician.

This message is for the Health Department and to aid in development of a Fact sheet.

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